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§18–3402.

- (a) In Howard County, the governing body of the county may establish a Student Loan Assistance Repayment Program for Teachers employed by the Howard County Public School System.
- (b) The purpose of the Program is to attract, recruit, and retain a diverse cadre of qualified teachers in the Howard County Public School System that is reflective of the student population within the county schools.
- (c) Subject to subsection (d) of this section, the county shall assist in the repayment of higher education loans owed by an individual who:
- (1) Receives a graduate, professional, or undergraduate degree from an accredited college or university;
- (2) Obtains employment as a full–time teacher in the Howard County Public School System;
- (3) Commits to teach in the Howard County Public School System for a period of not less than 5 years;
- (4) Receives an income that is less than the maximum eligible total income levels established by the county, including any additional sources of income;
 - (5) Is not in default on any student loan; and
- (6) Satisfies any other criteria established under the Program by the county.
- (d) An applicant for assistance in the repayment of a commercial loan shall demonstrate to the county that the commercial loan was used for tuition, educational expenses, or living expenses for graduate or undergraduate study.

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